

NOTICE OF PREPARATION AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS

Date: September 4, 2009

To: State Clearinghouse, Responsible and Trustee Agencies, and Interested Individuals

Subject: Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report and Public Scoping Meetings for the Admiralty Way/Via Marina Intersection Improvements Project

Project Title: Admiralty Way/Via Marina Intersection Improvements Project

Lead Agency: County of Los Angeles, Department of Public Works
Programs Development Division
900 South Fremont Avenue
Alhambra, CA 91803-1331

Contact: Dale Sakamoto, Programs Development Division

The County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works (LADPW), as the lead agency, will be preparing an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the Admiralty Way/Via Marina Intersection Improvements Project (proposed project) described below. LADPW is soliciting input from members of the public, organizations, and government agencies, including responsible and trustee agencies, on the scope and content of the information to be included and analyzed in the EIR. Agencies should comment on the elements of the environmental information that are relevant to their statutory responsibilities in connection with the proposed project.

The project description, location, and potential environmental effects of the proposed project (to the extent known) are described in this Notice of Preparation. Two public scoping meetings will be provided on the following dates and locations:

First Scoping Meeting

Date: Tuesday, September 15th
Time: 7:00pm – 9:00pm
Location: Burton Chace Park Community Center
13650 Mindanao Way
Marina del Rey

Second Scoping Meeting

Date: Saturday, September 26th
Time: 10:00am – 12:00pm
Location: Lloyd Taber Marina del Rey
Library
4533 Admiralty Way
Marina del Rey

Scoping comments on the EIR should be sent to the attention of Mr. Dale Sakamoto, Environmental Manager, Public Works, to the Lead Agency's address listed above. The public review period will be 30 days from the date of this notice ending on October 5, 2009.

Project Location/Description

The proposed project consists of alternative improvements at the Admiralty Way/Via Marina intersection. The project proposes to improve traffic flow by either adding a third left-turn lane from Admiralty Way to Via Marina at the existing intersection or by reconfiguring the existing "T" junction of the Admiralty Way and Via Marina intersection to create a continuous loop around

Marina del Rey. The continuous loop alternative would involve the realignment of Admiralty Way away from the existing “T” intersection with Via Marina into a southward curving intersection. This curved alignment would conform to the Mother’s Beach shoreline alignment and provide a roadway loop around the marina. The proposed project would improve pedestrian access to coastal resources within the marina. The proposed project would also improve air quality, and decrease noise levels by reducing traffic congestion and improving operational efficiency at the intersection of Admiralty Way and Via Marina. Admiralty Way is striped for two travel lanes in each direction, with left-turn pockets at all signalized intersections. The proposed scope of work involves new roadway construction; reconstruction and improvements to the existing roadway including curb, gutter, sidewalk, curb ramps, and driveway aprons; drainage facilities; retaining walls; signing and striping; street lighting; and traffic signals at the Admiralty Way/Via Marina Intersection. The project site, regional setting and public scoping meeting locations are shown on the following map.



The proposed project is located within the Marina del Rey portion of unincorporated Los Angeles County and is immediately adjacent to the City of Los Angeles. The proposed area of affect is located adjacent to Marina del Rey, a County-owned and operated tidal marina which connects to Santa Monica Bay. Admiralty Way, which runs in an east/west direction north of the marina harbor, intersects with Via Marina, which runs in a north/south direction. Per a review of the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) topographic map, the proposed project is located in the Venice 7.5 Minute Quadrangle Map. The entire footprint of the proposed project is located within the State Coastal Zone on developed land which retains little natural habitat. Adjacent land uses include commercial areas, the marina, and open spaces.

Probable Environmental Effects

Based on the resource characteristics of the project area, the following potentially significant environmental effects will be addressed in the EIR:

- Aesthetic impacts from the grading, reduced/reconfigured intersection medians, and landscaping.
- Noise impacts to adjacent sensitive noise receptors resulting from temporary roadway construction and operation.
- Cultural resource impacts from the grading, excavation and sub-surface improvements to the roadbed and drainage facilities.
- Public parkland impacts due to the potential relocation of the open space and monument adjacent to the intersection of Admiralty Way and Via Marina.
- Traffic impacts resulting from changes in access control and temporary detours, restrictions, parking, and closings.
- Water quality impacts from the proposed modification to drainage facilities and construction adjacent to Marina del Rey tidal marina and within the State Coastal Zone.

Please send all responses and comments related to the proposed project to Mr. Dale Sakamoto, Environmental Manager for the Department of Public Works, at (626) 458-3915, dsakamoto@dpw.lacounty.gov, or TDD (626) 282-7829 between the hours of 7:15 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Thursday. **In case of an emergency, please contact our help desk at (800) 675-4357.**

Si necesita asistencia con la traducción a Español, por favor comuníquese con el representante del departamento de Obras Públicas del Condado de Los Angeles, Sra. Sandra Perez (626) 458-3955.



Upon 72 hours' notice, Public Works can provide program information and publications in alternate formats or make other accommodations for people with disabilities. In addition, program documents are available at our main office in Alhambra (900 S. Fremont Ave.), which is accessible to individuals with disabilities. To request accommodations ONLY or for more Americans with Disabilities Act information, please contact our departmental Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator at (626) 458-4081 or TDD (626) 282-7829, Monday through Thursday, from 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.